

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### CONGRATULATING THE NORTH CATAWBA FIRE AND RESCUE DEPARTMENT ON THEIR 55TH ANNIVERSARY

#### HON. MARK MEADOWS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2013

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the members of the North Catawba Fire and Rescue Department as they mark their 55th anniversary.

Committed and hardworking firefighters play a vital role in keeping our homes, businesses, and public places safe from the threat of deadly fires.

The residents of North Catawba take comfort in knowing that these men and women are nearby in the event of an emergency.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 11th District of North Carolina, I congratulate the brave men and woman of North Catawba Fire and Rescue Department who are devoted to protecting lives. This sacrifice truly exemplifies the spirit of America.

### HONORING MASTER HARVEY GOLDBLATT—PIERSON COLLEGE, YALE UNIVERSITY

#### HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2013

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Master Harvey Goldblatt, a devoted educator who is affectionately known to students, alumni, and parents as simply, Master G.

After 19 years of dedicated service as the Master of Pierson College, Professor Goldblatt will step down from this position, but will continue as the Chair of the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures.

The Masters of Yale's residential colleges are responsible for all aspects of its operation—ensuring students have a place to live, study, and dine together. Master G was transformational for Pierson College and worked hard to enrich the student experience. Whether it was supporting their research, immersing them in other cultures, or taking the time to greet each student by name—Master G was a tireless advocate for their best interests.

Originally from Hamilton, Ontario, Master G received a Bachelor's Degree in Russian from McGill University in 1969. During his studies at McGill, Master G was the first North American to study abroad in the Soviet Union. He received a Master's in 1972 and a Ph.D. in 1978 in Slavic Languages and Literatures, both from Yale University.

Master G shared with the students, parents, and alumni of Pierson College his time, energy, and a strong devotion to their shared community. In return, they have asked me to

express their gratitude to him for being a beloved friend and mentor.

We thank Professor Goldblatt for his continued service to Yale and look forward to meeting the next generation of young thinkers and leaders who will follow in his good example.

### THIRTEEN AMERICANS RECEIVING APPOINTMENTS TO THE U.S. MILITARY ACADEMIES

#### HON. CORY GARDNER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2013

Mr. GARDNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize 13 young Americans from my district that all received appointments to the prestigious U.S. military academies. As these young men and women prepare for their graduation from high school and look forward to the opportunities and challenges that they will face in the coming years, I would like to take a moment to pause and reflect on what they have already accomplished.

This year's group of appointees is made up of Eagle Scouts, team captains, talented musicians, and passionate stewards of the community. Their teachers, coaches, and neighbors have described members of this class as exceptionally hard workers, both in the classroom and on the playing field. Collectively, they averaged a 4.06 GPA.

Through all of their activities, two qualities have shined brightest: Leadership and Integrity. These qualities will serve them well as they grow into tomorrow's leaders in the Armed Forces and beyond.

The members of this group are truly among the best and brightest of our country. Their numerous achievements, dedication to America, and their limitless potential for future greatness have renewed my faith and belief that America's best days lie ahead.

Please join me in wishing these young adults success in all their future endeavors.

### MATTHEW RANDELL, HONORED FOR HIS COMMITMENT TO VOLUNTEER AT BAY PINES VETERANS AFFAIRS HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

#### HON. C. W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2013

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to pay tribute to Mr. Matthew Randsell for his commitment to serving our wounded veterans. Over the past two years he has committed countless hours serving our wounded Veterans at Bay Pines Veterans Affairs Healthcare System (VAHCS). While volunteering, he brings joy and happiness to everyone that he meets and works with.

Bay Pines VAHCS provides excellent health, psychiatric and extended care services for over 10,000 Veterans a year as they return home and integrate back into civilian life. Bay Pines is made up of nine facilities along Florida's west coast, and provides outstanding healthcare to Florida's Veterans. The 3,500 staff members and 1,500 volunteers have made it possible for the men and women that have served this nation in uniform to obtain the best possible care.

Matthew is just one of those 1,500 volunteers, but he stands out for his exceptional service to the facility and its patients. He has dedicated over 1,000 hours of his time, in the past two years, to volunteering. During this time spent, he has created thousands of smiles for both patients and staff. He makes people smile with anything from a simple thumbs up to his signature "happy dance" that he has perfected in his time at Bay Pines VAHCS. Everyone, from patients to VA directors, dances with him. In addition to bringing vast amounts of happiness, he works in the Voluntary Service storage room by organizing and delivering robes, books, shirts, and toiletries to Veterans in the medical center.

I would like to recognize Matthew as a patriotic and incredible man who continues his part to serve the country. He has found a way to share his gifts of love and cheerfulness with the men and women who have selflessly put their lives on the line for our freedom. For this, I would ask all my colleagues to join me in thanking and commending Matthew for his service and dedication to our Nation's heroes.

### HIGH PERFORMING BUILDING WEEK

#### HON. MICHAEL G. GRIMM

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2013

Mr. GRIMM. Mr. Speaker, this week, architects, code officials, homebuilders, architects, engineers and representatives from the building trades will convene in Washington to celebrate High-performance Building week.

The annual event features briefings, meetings, and other educational opportunities to showcase and promote the good work being done to construct and maintain buildings that are more resilient, use less energy, and mitigate their impact on the environment.

As a member of the High-Performance Building Congressional Caucus, I know that building owners and operators work hard to find new creative ways to minimize the impact that rising energy costs have on their operations.

Many of these owners and operators are beginning to see the fruits of their labor, as improved designs of new buildings, and smart retrofits of existing buildings, free up capital and allow managers to commit more resources to their core operations, rather than to utility bills.

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